

Message Text

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TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: WEEKLY ACTIVITIES, FIFTH WEEK,
ROUND VI

TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO 95

1. SUMMARY: FIFTH WEEK ROUND VI CONSISTED OF FOUR PLENARY AND ONW EORKING GROUP MEETING. WORKING GROUP ATTEMPTED AGREEMENT ON PROTOCOL LEGAL ARTICLES. LITTLE SUCCESS BECAUSE SOVIETS REFUSE TO CONSIDER LANGUAGE NOT ALREADY SET AS LEGAL PRECEDENT, EVEN THOUGH THEY CONCEDE SO-CALLED PRECEDENTS ARE DISTINGUISHABLE OR IRRELEVANT. SOVIETS SAID THEY ARE GIVING MUCH THOUGHT TO FORMAT. MAJORITY DISCUSSIONS IN PLENARIES DEVOTED TO YIELD LEVEL FOR INTRODUCTION OF LOCAL SEISMIC NEWTORK. BOTH SIDES CLARIFIED POSITIONS BUT NO CONSENSUS REACHED. SOVIETS STILL CONSIDERING US PROPOSAL FOR POST-EXPLOSION SELECTION OF RECORDING EQUIPMENT. THEY CONCERNED ABOUT US REQUIREMENT THAT WOULD PROHIBIT HOST EXAMING CALIBRATION AND TEST EQUIPMENT POST-EXPLOSION. SOVIETS PRESENTED COUNTER-PROPOSAL TO US PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTICLE ACCEPTING SOME OF US SUBJECTS FOR PHOTOS BUT NOT ALLOWING OBSERVERS TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS. END SUMMARY.

2. WORKING GROUP 1 FEB 23 PRODUCED AGREEMENT ON US PROTOCOL ARTICLE XII PARAS 1 AND 3. MUCH DISCUSSION

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ON INVIOABILITY PROVISION BUT NO AGREEMENT REACHED.

SOVIET BELIEVE AGREEMENT SHOULD NOT ESTABLISH "NEW NORM" OF INTERNATIONAL LAW CONCERNING INVIOABILITY. US WILL SEND LAWYER TO MEET WITH LAPTEV TO TRY TO COMPLETE LEGAL ISSUES.

3. AT PLENARY FEB 24, SOVIETS DESCRIBED THEIR SEISMIC EQUIPMENT (MOSCOW 2882). SOVIETS PROVIDED GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ANTENNAS ASSOCIATED WITH LOCAL SEISMIC NET. SOVIETS PRESENTED VIEWS ON PROBABILITY TELESEISMIC YIELD ESTIMATES EXCEEDING SLIFER YIELD ESTIMATES AS INCIDATION OF COLLATERAL EVENT. MUCH DISCUSSION BUT NO CONCLUSIONS.

4. AT PLENARY FEB 25, US PRESENTED VIEWS ON FACTORS RELEVANT TO DETERMINING YIELD LEVEL WHEN LOCAL SEISMIC NET REQUIRED. SAID TELESEISMIC CAPABILITY DEPENDS ON SEPARATION IN TIME AND DISTANCE BETWEEN PNE AND COLLATERAL EVENT AND RELATIVE YIELDS. WITH DECREASING SEPARATION OF TIME AND DISTANCE, NEED ARISES FOR LOCAL SEISMIC NET AND WITH FURTHER REDUCTION IN SPACING ADDITIONAL MEANS OF VERIFICATION NEEDED SO ACCESS OF OBSERVERS REQUIRED. TO ENHANCE VERIFICATION, USE OF LOCAL SEISMIC NET FOR 15 DAYS POST-EVENT REQUIRED TO MONITOR FOR POSSIBLE CAVITY COLLAPSE. SOVIETS COMPLAINED THAT US NEVER GIVES DATA OR SCIENTIFIC ARGUMENTS, ONLY GENERALITIES, TO SUPPORT POSITION. DISCUSSION REVOLVED AROUND FACT THAT DECISIONS DEPEND ON JUDGMENT OF RISK, AND NOT TECHNICAL MATTERS ONLY; DEFINITIVE RESOLUTION CANNOT BE FOUND IN SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS ALONE.

5. AT PLENARY FEB 26, US GAVE DETAILED DESCRIPTION LOCAL SEISMIC NET ANTENNA RADIATION PATTERN. US ASKED SOVIETS FOR REASONS FOR DIFFERENCES IN ITEMS TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED BETWEEN US AND SOVIET DRAFT TEXTS OF PHOTOGRAPHY PARAGRAPH. SOVIETS SAID PHOTOGRAPHS OF HOST PARTY EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH CONFIRMATION OF GEOLOGY AND STEMMING OPERATIONS NOT NECESSARY, BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT NEEDED FOR OBSERVER RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS. EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION ON ISSUE OF DISTANCE OF LOCAL SEISMIC NETWORK FROM EXPLOSION, BUT NO CONCLUSIONS REACHED. US

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STILL BELIEVES 20 KM NECESSARY AND SOVIETS INSIST THAT 10 KM IS SUFFICIENT.

6. AT PLENARY FEB 27, GENERAL DISCUSSIONS ON (A) WHAT IS MEANT BY "COMPONENTS FOR RECORDING DATA," (B) POST-SHOT RETENTION OF ALL COMPONENTS OF RECORDING EQUIPMENT FOR PERIOD OF 30 DAYS; (C) OBSERVER AREAS OF ACCESS AND RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONF FOR EXPLOSIONS AND AGGREGATE YIELD

RANGE 100-150 KT. MUCH DISCUSSION ON THREE ITEMS BUT NO CONCLUSIONS OR AGREEMENTS REACHED. SOVIETS DID AGREE WITH SUBPARAS 2(A)(I) AND 2(A)(II) OF ARTICLE VIII BUT CLAIMED THIS LANGUAGE ENCOMPASSED ONLY OBSERVER RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS SPECIFIED BY SUBPARAS 1(A) AND 1(B) OF ARTICLE VI. US ANALYZED TEXT FOR SOVIETS STATING THAT OBSERVER RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS IN SUBPARAS 1(C), 1(D), 1(E) AND 1(F) OF ARTICLE VI ALSO INCLUDED. SOVIETS ASKEE FOR FURTHER STUDY.

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